



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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PHIL BREDESEN

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TO: Directors of Schools
System and Building Testing Coordinators
Supervisors of Instruction
Special Education Supervisors
ESL Teachers
System 504 Coordinators
Principals
Guidance Counselors
Field Service Center Teams
NCLB Exemplary Educators
Teachers—General Education and Special Education
Department of Education Personnel

FROM:  Joseph E. Fisher, Assistant Commissioner of Special Education

DATE: June 14, 2004

RE: TCAP Test Accommodations for **ALL STUDENTS**

With the increasing pressures and accountability issues incurred by school systems for obtaining Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) there has been a focus on the appropriate use of accommodations during regular classroom instruction that are also appropriate for use during TCAP Assessment. The implementation of **No Child Left Behind** has raised awareness of the importance of focusing on the individual needs of **ALL** students. To ensure greater probability of all students obtaining progressing scores, the *2004-2005 TCAP Accommodations Instructions and Addendums* have been clearly defined and expanded for all students in all programs—including general education, special education, and ESL programs.

To assist educators in the use of Allowable, Special and ELL Test Accommodations, thirteen training sessions will be conducted across the state in September and October. The revised *2004-2005 TCAP Accommodations Instructions and Addendums* have been posted on the Special Education website at <http://www.state.tn.us/education/speced/seassessment/>.

Specific times and locations of statewide training will be posted on the Special Education website when finalized. The Department of Education urges school administrators, teacher representatives in general and special education, and all key educators in your systems to learn more about enabling all students to reach their potential on TCAP assessments.